

If a Vehicle Is “Not Rated,” Is the Vehicle Unsafe?

No. All vehicles sold in the United States must comply with Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standards (CFR Title 49: Chapter V, Part 571). These standards cover a broad range of safety requirements for vehicles including occupant protection, fuel systems, tires, and brakes.

Does Optional Safety Equipment Affect the Safety Ratings?

Yes. NHTSA generally purchases and tests a particular vehicle as it comes with “standard equipment” – that is, with no optional equipment. Optional safety equipment or an alternative configuration (such as a station wagon, coupe, drive train, or convertible) may yield different safety ratings than the standard configuration tested by the agency. Vehicles with optional safety equipment, or an alternative configuration, may have “Not Rated” next to the applicable safety test.



Coming to a Window Sticker Near You . . .



For more detailed explanations and updated safety ratings, visit:

www.safercar.gov

or call

888-327-4236



Government 5-Star Safety Ratings



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What's Different About a Vehicle's Window Price Sticker?

Window price stickers (also known as "Monroney labels") are required on new passenger vehicles and already contain important consumer information such as a vehicle's content, price, and fuel economy. However, as of September 2007, these same stickers contain the vehicle's safety ratings in a new "Government Safety Ratings" section.

What Information Is Contained in the Government Safety Ratings Section?

The Government Safety Ratings section contains the results of the three vehicle safety tests conducted by the U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT): a frontal crash test, a side crash test, and a roll test. All three tests use the 5-star rating scheme, with 5 being the safest score.

GOVERNMENT SAFETY RATINGS		
Frontal Crash	Driver Passenger	★★★★★
Star ratings based on the risk of injury in a frontal impact. Frontal ratings should ONLY be compared to other vehicles of similar size and weight.		
Side Crash	Front seat Rear seat	★★★★★ Not Rated
Star ratings based on the risk of injury in a side impact. ▲ Safety concern: Visit www.safercar.gov or call 1-888-327-4236 for more details.		
Rollover		★★★★★
Star ratings based on the risk of rollover in a single vehicle crash.		
Star ratings range from 1 to 5 stars (★★★★★) with 5 being the highest.		
Source: National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA).		
www.safercar.gov or 1-888-327-4236		

What Do the Star Ratings Mean?

Frontal star ratings indicate the chance of a serious head and chest injury to the driver and right-front-seat passenger. Side star ratings indicate the chance of a serious chest injury for the driver or right-front-seat passenger, and the rear-seat passenger. The rollover ratings estimate the risk that a vehicle will roll over if it is involved in a single-vehicle crash. For each rating, 5 stars represent the highest score, or safest score. It is impossible to determine how well a vehicle protects drivers and passengers in all types of crashes, but star ratings are a vital tool for comparing vehicle safety.

Frontal crash rating results should only be compared to other vehicles in the same class and whose weight is within about 250 lbs of the vehicle being rated. Side crash rating results can be compared across all classes because all vehicles are struck by a barrier that has the same weight and crash velocity. Rollover ratings can also be compared across all classes.

Will Every New Vehicle Have a Government Safety Rating?

No. As new vehicle models are introduced by manufacturers, DOT places priority on those vehicles most commonly purchased in the marketplace. Since DOT purchases these vehicles from local dealers prior to rating them, some vehicles may not have had their safety rating assigned prior to arriving on dealer lots. Those vehicles without a front, side, or rollover rating may display an alternative and smaller Government Safety Ratings section as shown. They may also display the phrase "Not Rated" next to the applicable safety rating on the larger label.

GOVERNMENT SAFETY RATINGS
This vehicle has not been rated by the government for frontal crash, side crash or rollover risk.
Source: National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA).
www.safercar.gov or 1-888-327-4236

What Does it Mean When a Vehicle Has This Symbol ⚠️ Displayed Next to a Particular Safety Rating?

This symbol indicates that a vehicle has a safety concern. A safety concern is a test occurrence that is not reflected in a vehicle's star rating but that DOT feels is of significant importance that the event should be noted to consumers. Additionally, consumer research has indicated that consumers find this information helpful and want to be made aware of these events when they occur.

What Does It Mean If I See a "Not Rated" or "To Be Rated" Next to One of the Safety Tests on the Label?

There may be situations in which all testing for a particular vehicle has not been completed prior to the vehicle arriving on dealers' lots - resulting in a complete set of ratings not being available on some window stickers. Vehicles with an incomplete set of ratings or those that U.S. DOT plans to rate, but has not yet tested, may have a "Not Rated" phrase next to the applicable safety test. Manufacturers may also use the phrase "To Be Rated" if the manufacturer has received documentation from DOT that the vehicle will be rated. Consumers and dealers are encouraged to visit www.safercar.gov or call 888-327-4236 to obtain the latest safety ratings.

